

Solano County Public Safety Heroes

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Independent Voice

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ANNOUNCING THE PREMIERE OF ALICE'S WONDERLAND



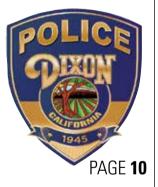
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POLICE REPORT





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Make a Plan for Successful Aging



Staff poses at last month's one-year anniversary celebration at the Farmstead at Dixon Senior Living. From left are Maribel Mendoza, Carrie Nielsen, Alana Reyes and Mark Reyes. Courtesy Photo

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - According to the Public Policy Institute of California, our older adult population will increase dramatically by 2040, from 5.7 million to just more than 9 million. It is an increase of a whopping 59 percent and means that nearly one-fourth of the state's population will be 65 or older.

In a January 2025 report, California is on the cusp of an "unprecedented demographic shift" and offered an examination of the state's older population and gave policy insights to help state leaders and stakeholders plan.

Farmstead at Dixon is on top of it. Collaborating with ElderCare Management, the senior living facility is offering a free public "Successful Aging" workshop at 10 a.m. March 26 at 350 Gateway Drive in Dixon.

Caring for a loved one and planning for the future can be a daunting task, one that many Dixonites know

too well as they've had to turn over care to professionals at local care homes or hire extra help for their loved ones.

"Not everyone is a planner and people have different levels of comfort with outlining a path for the future," reads Eldercare's literature. "What are the implications of remaining at home or moving to a retirement setting?" The workshop will encourage the conversations that need to be had in order to create a plan or implement one.

Some elderly people only need a little extra help getting their clothes on, cooking a meal, getting to a doctor's appointment or picking up medications.

For one Dixon family, it was just as much about the dangerous situation of a wandering spouse as the incontinence that can happen anywhere at any time. Having to keep a change of clothing, clean pads, and bags to keep soiled clothing in at all times can be exhausting.

Another Dixon family caring for

their 90-plus father must come over to change sheets every few days, despite the father being lucid and cares mostly for himself. They worry about him falling or accidentally over-cooking in the kitchen.

Having a successful care plan reduces stress for family members and can help prevent a crisis from occurring.

Older adults not only have a greater number of illnesses than younger adults but they are also more likely to have some of the most difficult-to-manage conditions, including Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, and other dementias.

The Public Policy Institute of California reported that while older Californians begin to experience difficulties caring for themselves later in life than they used to, they will become dependent on others for help with daily activities with a "significant increase" in dependency after age 80 and "dramatic increases" with the 85-plus population.

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Dixon May Fair has Market Animal Requirements and Deadlines



Abbie Ming Dixon FFA shows a 2024 Supreme Champion Market Lamb. Courtesy photo

KE Spencer Event Marketing News Release

bixon, ca (MPG) - All youth who intend to exhibit market livestock at the 2025 Dixon May Fair must have their animal pre-tagged in order to compete during the Fair, May 8 to 11.

Entry into the market goats, market lambs and market swine classes will be accepted starting on Feb. 3 and ending March 7 or until barn space has reached capacity, whichever comes first. Entries will be accepted online, by mail or at the fair office.

Exhibitors may tag any number of large market animals, but they must fill out an entry form and pay the entry fee for each market animal tagged. You may only bring 2 market animals (large or small) to the fair and only sell 1 animal in the sale.

FFA advisors, 4-H leaders, Grange leaders and/ or parents of independent juniors must pick up tags for the entered animals between March 17 and March 21. (Weekdays only between 8 a.m. and noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.) Tags will be pre-assigned to the animals by fair staff and must be placed in the animal's ear prior to arrival on the fairgrounds for the Fair. The animals must be entered into the Fair to receive a tag.

For eligibility requirements and the complete rules and regulations regarding the livestock exhibits, read the Exhibit Guidebook available on the fair's website at dixonmayfair.com/community-showcase/.

Please note that currently the State of California has placed a ban on poultry and dairy cattle exhibitions at fairs and shows in the State, therefore, currently they cannot be shown at the 2025 Dixon May Fair. For more information on this ban please visit cdfa.ca.gov/AHFSS/Animal_Health/docs/

CA_Poulty_Dairy_Cattle_ Exhibition_Ban_2025.pdf.

The Dixon May Fair office is at 655 South First Street in Dixon. Office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. ★

NorthBay Increases Access to Healthcare



NorthBay Health's Urgent Care Clinic is at 1305 Stratford Ave. in Davis. The clinic is open every day of the year. Photo courtesy of Northbay Health

By Kendall Brown

DIXON, CA (MPG) - NorthBay Health at 1305 Stratford Ave. officially opened its Urgent Care Clinic in Dixon last Nov. 18.

The urgent care center boasts facilities that treat non-lethal conditions that

require immediate attention, such as headaches, colds, flus, asthma, rashes, cuts and bruises. According to Dr. Blake H. Cleveland,

viced more than a thousand patients in its first three months of operation.

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the facility has already ser-

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Letter? I Think Not

By Debra Dingman

So, I'm taking this class called 'Legacy Letters' and the idea was that you write out a letter to your children and grand-children the things you want them to know. It is not a will or legal document but a "passing forward" of the things you believe are important in the way you live and work.

I thought how simple it would be just to hand them a copy of the 10 Commandments but I remembered I was the student... This should be a timeless letter that can inform and inspire future generations.

The sweet but somewhat disorganized presenter passed around some samples of booklets such as "Advice From A Tree" by Ilan Shamir. I actually picked this one up somewhere in time as I remember seeing it, probably at a hospital gift shop where these kinds of booklets are common.

"Be content with Natural Beauty," read one page. "Be Flexible" said another and "Think Long Term" yet another. I missed not having an outline to follow and it seemed I wasn't the only one feeling confused but then she provided a copy of her own letter as an example. It was not even two pages.

At the end of the day of the first class, I sat down to do my homework using her example of a wheel with the center that read "VALUES" and proceeded to think about what mine are. To start, I wrote: spiritual, family, integrity, learning, nature, and health. Then, from there I wrote why those things were important to me and gave examples of the lessons in life I had learned...

At midnight and about six pages in, I

decided it was bedtime and that I probably had overdone the assignment a bit.

The next class, only a couple of us out of 15 had done the work. When she asked if anyone had any comments, of course, I raised my hand.

"I feel like I just started another book," I said. "I wanted to give personal examples of why I shared that particular value so that my letter would be personalized and not just another 8 x 10 wall hanging with cute, scrolling words." I told them, for example, that I remembered something as simple as helping my mother make the bed and how she fluffed the sheet up in the air one time and it landed perfectly across the mattress.

I was a young bride and had struggled with sheets always going from corner to corner and back again trying to get it equal on all sides. I remembered thinking, "Wow, my mom has got some things figured out!" Honoring and respecting her stuck with me. I wanted my children and grandchildren to see her name in my letter and know she was real. The class agreed it was a good idea to include how those values came about.

This is why people write books, I thought. A parent/grandparent spends a lifetime teaching offspring what you want them to know.

But, here's some of the other nuggets I jotted down: Trust God; honor your body; take a college-level nutrition class; try homeopathic remedies first; cherish your spouse; enjoy your job; strive to be the best you can be; never stop learning; read, investigate, and know what you believe and why; don't litter; be respectful of nature; ask when you need help; cherish children and teach them well. I could go on for another several days but tomorrow morning is our next class.

Thorns Aside ...

Dan Rott, a former Dixon teacher and principal, has become an expert rose gardener in retirement and offered a pruning class recently to the Dixon Women's Improvement Club members and spouses. The **Dixon Women's Improvement** Club established the rose garden on the corner of North A and C Streets a few years ago and has a committee of volunteers that regularly maintain it for the public. Pictured here from left are Pamela Marks, Carolyn Rannefeld, Jill Orr, Rott and Dave Marks. Photo by Teri Brown





Dixon News Briefs



Team Dixon, a non-profit organization that supports children with special needs and disabilities within the community, is hosting a live performance called "Together We Can" at 6 p.m. March 8. Team Dixon beneficiaries, staff, and buddies, who act as direct support for the kids involved, are rehearsing diligently to put on the best show possible. Photo courtesy of Team Dixon

By MPG Staff

Celebrate Dixon

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting the Celebrate Dixon 2025 Awards Night Gala from 5 to 11 p.m. on March 8. Held in Denverton Hall at the Dixon Fairgrounds, 655 S. First St, attendees can participate in a silent auction, prize raffle, hat raffle and live auction for desserts and premier Mayfair Parade seating. Dinner is catered by Bud's Pub & Grill and a No-host bar, hosted by the Rotary Club of Dixon, is also included. Tickets are \$75 per person and are payable in advance; tickets must be purchased by Feb. 28 and will not be purchasable at the door.

For more information visit dixonchamber.org or call 707-678-2650.

Veteran's Dinner

American Legion Post 208 is hosting a Veteran's Dinner from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Feb. 28 at Veterans' Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St. A breaded porkchop, gravy, veggies and a roll will be on offer for \$12 per person, and it will be all-you-can-eat.

For more information visit American Legion Post 208's Facebook page.

Girls on the Rise

The Solano County Bar Association is hosting a professional development event for young women ages 15 to 25. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on March 22, participants can meet women leaders in career fields such as Law, STEM, Business and First Responders. Taking place at Solano County Event Center, 601 Texas St., Fairfield, guests will also be offered the opportunity to tour a courtroom; parents and guardians are welcome to attend.

For purchase tickets visit Eventbrite.com.

Dixon Alerts

Dixon Alerts is still available for sign-up. This alert system allows residents and visitors to get notifications on traffic alerts, events and other urgent news within Dixon. Alert Solano will still be used in urgent or life-threatening situations, but those interested can register for Dixon Alerts via text message by texting DIXON to 226787.

For more information visit the City of Dixon CA Facebook page.

Dixon Chamber Connections Networking

The Dixon Chamber of Commerce is hosting a networking event from 12 to 1:30 p.m. on March 6. Held at The Farmstead at Dixon, 350 Gateway Drive, this in-person event is a great opportunity to connect with local professionals, entrepreneurs and business owners. With a diverse range of potential connections, attendees are encouraged to bring plenty of business cards.

For more information visit dixonchamber.org or call 707-678-2650.

Soroptimist International Annual Golf Tournament

Soroptimist International of Dixon is

hosting its 32nd Annual Golf Tournament at 7:30 a.m. on April 11. The event will be held at Paradise Valley Golf Course, 3990 Paradise Valley Road, Fairfield. For a \$150 entry fee, attendees will receive lunch, be entered into a raffle, and have the opportunity to win awards following golf. Entry forms and fees are due March 31, and checks should be payable to: Soroptimist of Dixon, P.O. Box 472, Dixon, CA, 95620. Proper golf attire is required.

For more information contact kathylking 1955@gmail.com or call 916-838-8073.

American Legion Saint Patrick's Dinner

American Legion Post 208 is hosting a Saint Patrick's Dinner from 4 to 8 p.m. on March 14. The event will be held in Veteran's Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St. and offers a no-host bar and dinner. For \$15, attendees can enjoy corned beef, cabbage, potatoes and carrots. The bar opens at 4 p.m. and dinner is served at 6 p.m.

For more information visit dixonchamber org

Together We Can!

TEAM Dixon and Synergy are hosting "Together We Can!" at 6 p.m. on March 8. The show, described as "an adaptive and inclusive musical journey throughout the decades," will be held at the Dixon Community Performing Arts Center. 555 College Way. Team Dixon is a non-profit organization founded in 2014 that supports children with special needs or disabilities by offering unique opportunities, such as March 8's show.

For more information visit Team Dixon's Facebook Page.

The Legacy of Blacksmithing

The Dixon Historical Society and Museum, 125 W. A St., presents a new exhibit titled "Hammer and Heat: The Legacy of Blacksmithing." Unveiling at noon on March 7, the exhibit will explore the rich history, craftsmanship and enduring legacy of the blacksmith trade. The exhibit will present guests with rare artifacts, interactive displays and live demonstrations.

For more information visit dixonhistoricalsociety.com.

Tuskegee Airmen Commemoration Day Celebration

The Lee A. Archer, Jr. Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen Inc. is hosting a commemorative event to celebrate the victories and sacrifices of the Tuskegee Airmen. This event will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Fairfield, 2200 Gateway Ct., from 6 to 11 p.m. on March 29. The special event offers the opportunity to honor these trailblazing pilots' exploits, many of whom were the first African American pilots in US history.

For more information visit Eventbrite.

Make a Plan for Successful Aging

Continued from page 1

The state sees that communities and

families will play a crucial role in meeting the care needs of an aging population. By 2040, state officials predict 59 percent will be residing with a spouse and a significant portion living with other family members. The program, IHHS or In-Home-Health-Services, was designed to maintain Medi-Cal eligible-aged adults safely in

incur \$28 an hour or more for part-time assistance. But these options work if the elders are mostly capable.

For more information on Successful

their homes but otherwise a family could

Aging, call 707-676-5060 to register for the March 26 presentation or email info@ eldercm.com. Read more of the January Public Policy Institute of California report online at ppic.org.





Solano County Public Safety Heroes

Congressman Mike Thompson News Release

SOLANO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - On Feb. 16, Rep. Mike Thompson (CA-04) announced Officer Mathew Bowen, Emergency Medical Technician Michael "Mike" Robinson and Canine Officer Murph as the 2025 Solano County Public Safety Heroes.

Every year, Thompson honors first responders who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in our community.

"Our first responders go above and beyond to protect and serve the communities they call home. I am proud to recognize many of the public safety heroes in our district who go the extra mile to keep us safe," said Thompson. "Officer Mathew Bowen made the ultimate sacrifice to our community, tragically losing his life in the line of duty. Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Michael Robinson exemplified the best of public service through his leadership and quick decision making while saving the life of a gunshot victim. Canine Officer Murph displayed courage and sacrifice when shot in the paw while serving a highrisk arrest warrant, leading to the amputation of his leg. They have all made great sacrifices in the name of our community and I am proud to honor them here today."

Officer Bowen graduated from the Napa Police Academy in 2019 before working for the Concord Police Department and eventually joining the Vacaville Police Department in 2023. He was tragically killed in 2024 during a traffic stop. Officer Bowen is remembered for his kindness, sense of humor, work ethic and unwavering calm under pressure. He truly exemplified the highest ideals of law enforcement, service, integrity and sacrifice. His legacy of courage and sacrifice will never be forgotten.

In 2024, EMT Robinson, who



Rep. Mike Thompson is with Officer Matthew Bowen's mother, Becky; father, Marc; brother, Jonathan; partner, Mateo; and Captains Dave Kellis and Bryan Larsen of the Vacaville Police Department accepting on behalf of Officer

Murph was shot in the paw while assisting with a high-risk arrest warrant, eventually requiring the amputation of his leg. Officer Murph is currently recovering from his injuries. K-9 Murph's bravery and sacrifice make it "pawsible" for our community to remain safe.

Officer Bowen, EMT Robinson, and Officer Murph displayed courage, commitment, and bravery in their duties to their community. Their sacrifices benefit all of us and Congressman Thompson is honored to recognize them today.

Congressman Mike Thompson is proud to represent California's 4th Congressional District, which includes all or part of Lake, Napa, Solano, Sonoma and Yolo Counties. He is a senior member of the House Committee



Rep. Thompson is with Emergency Medical Technician Mike Robinson.

was on duty with an intern, was dispatched to a call for a victim of a gunshot wound. Upon arrival at the scene, EMT Robinson quickly assessed the patient's condition, deciding that they must administer a needle thoracostomy. Under his guidance, the intern completed the procedure, saving

the patient and leading them to eventually make a full recovery. Mr. Robinson also mentors and teaches incoming EMT interns and helps them obtain their paramedic licenses. His commitment to community and leadership in training the next generation of paramedics is admirable.



Canine Officer Cade is with handler Officer Alex Eustler and Lt. Rob Myers, accepting on behalf of Canine Officer Murph. Courtesy photo

Officer Murph serves with his partner, Officer Chad Hudson, as the Vacaville Police Department's senior K-9 team. Although his favorite duties include visiting elementary school students, he has participated in a great number of arrests. In January, Officer on Ways and Means. Rep. Thompson is chairman of the House Gun Violence Prevention Task Force. He is also co-chair of the bipartisan, bicameral Congressional Wine Caucus and a member of the fiscally-responsible Blue Dog



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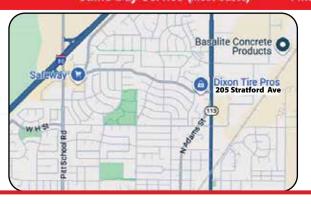
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We've Got You Covered!



Kings Korner By V.G. Harris

The stretch drive has begun in earnest and the new version of the Sacramento Kings is front and center. Take a long look, because what you see assembled is largely what you'll see for the remainder of the season.

The question on the minds of every fan is whether we are better or worse after the consummation of the DeAaron Fox trade.

Many fans and pundits have focused on DeAaron's attributes as a scorer and distributor, but many never gave him credit for being the defender that he is. Already the Kings are having difficulty replacing Fox on the offensive end, and turnovers are markedly up since his departure.

This is partly due to players taking on new roles, and Malik Monk has struggled to some degree moving from his natural position as a 2-guard to running the point. Part of the problem is the increased energy it takes to be the primary ball handler and distributor on offense. Malik is capable of running the point, but with the addition of Markelle Fultz, and rookie Devin Carter coming off the bench, it may be possible for Malik to assume his natural place as the 2-guard.

Without question Fultz is a mystery, but a fully healthy Markelle Fultz may surprise Kings fans, and perhaps make people remember that he was the overall No.1 pick in the 2017 draft. Yes, the very same draft in which the Sacramento Kings drafted DeAaron Fox in the

No one wants to hear that this new assembly needs time to gel, but in reality, it will take several games before coach Christie will have a better understanding of his new talent.

So, with less than 30 games to go, and every game becoming more and more meaningful, what are the keys to Kings making the playoffs this year.

No. 1, know the talent on your team. Sounds simple, but are the right players coming off the bench every game?

Newcomer Jake LaRavia has been eating up minutes but has had little to show. In the game against the Warriors LaRavia clocked 16 minutes and scored 0 points and 0 assists. That simply can't happen. At 6'7" Jake is another tweener, and what the Kings need is someone to compliment Domantas Sabonis with post defense and rebounding help.

Sitting idly on the bench is 6'9" Isaac Jones, who at 245 pounds has a wing span of 7'3". Just in his rookie season, the Kings have yet to fully see what Jones can bring to the table. When sent to G-league he played like a man among boys, but coach Christie has been reluctant to give this big man any meaningful minutes.

This writer would much rather see an athletic Isaac Jones logging minutes than Jake LaRavia, who is largely just taking

It's time to stop experimenting and stick with a rotation that can produce on both ends of the floor.

Although it's early, I believe newcomer Markelle Fultz can run the point and allow Malik to fill the 2-guard spot where he's more comfortable.

The 2nd key to making the playoffs is that individual players need to step up and play the way they can play. We have yet to see the best of Zach LaVine, and not to be left out, Keegan Murray simply needs to shoot the ball better. We know he's capable, but his lack of consistent offense leaves us wondering what's wrong. Murray needs to look for his shot and not fear shooting it. Monday night's game against the

Charlotte Hornets will give fans a better barometer as to where the Kings are, but without a doubt, LaVine and Murray are key players that can make an appreciable difference, and I want to see both of these players step up and make a statement.

Keep your eye on bench rotations, and especially who is bringing the ball downcourt. I'm a huge fan of Malik Monk, but I want to see him used where he benefits the team the most.

Stay tuned Kings fans. A lot can happen in a ten-game stretch, so let's see where we are after the next 10 games.

All the best!

Your thoughts are always welcome at vgharriskingsfan@gmail.com.

Social Security Matters

Can I Get Extra Social Security for my Military Service?

your military service when you



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: Please help. I served from 1964 to 1966 in the US Army. I have been trying to contact Social Security in order to request extra benefits for veterans. The telephone is a recording, and you never get to speak to anyone. The web site at www.ssa.gov is useless to me. I went to the SS office and there was a huge line outdoors in the freezing cold. I am disabled and cannot stand on a line in this cold. Please advise me about my options. Financially, is it worth the trouble? **Signed:** Disabled American Veteran

Dear Disabled Veteran: My profound thanks for your service to our country. FYI, the "special extra credit for military service" you refer to does not provide an incremental Social Security benefit amount for military veterans. Rather, it adds an additional amount to your recording earnings for the years you served, which may - or may not - affect your Social Security benefit. FYI, I've written numerous articles on this topic, one of which you can read at this link: www.socialsecurityreport.org/ ask-rusty-older-veteran-asks-about-special-social-security-credit-for-military-service/.

In your case (serving between 1964 and 1966), if you told Social Security of applied for benefits (or gave them a copy of your DD-214), they would have added up to \$1,200 per year to your recorded military pay record (FYI, those who served after 1967 were automatically given earnings credit for their military service years). However, whether those special extra credits would affect your SS benefit depends on what your lifetime earnings record was when you later claimed SS. When you applied for benefits, Social Security reviewed your lifetime earnings record and used the highest earning 35 years of earnings over your lifetime (adjusted for inflation) to calculate your "Primary Insurance Amount" (or "PIA," which is what you get if you claim benefits to start at your SS full retirement age. If, after your military service, you had 35 or more years of earnings which were higher than what you earned while serving, Social Security would have used those later higher earnings to calculate your benefit, and your military earnings wouldn't affect your benefit. If, however, any of your military earnings (including the "special extra credits") were among the highest over your lifetime, then those higher military earnings would be included

So, whether you will benefit from these "special extra credits for military service" depends largely on your post-service earnings history. If your military earnings were among the highest earning years over your lifetime, and you provided SSA with a copy of your DD-214 when you applied for Social Security, then your current SS

when calculating your benefit.

benefit already includes consideration of your military service. Social Security should have asked about your military service when you applied. If you didn't advise SS of your military service when you applied for Social Security, or if you aren't sure, you should contact the SSA at 1.800.772.1213 and ask if you were given those "special extra credits for military service" when you applied. However, if you had at least 35 years of higher earnings after you left military service, your current SS benefit is already based on those later higher earning years, and you will not get anything additional from those "special extra credits" for your military service years.

FYI, we know it is often difficult to contact the Social Security Administration by phone, as well as trying to visit SSA offices without an appointment (which is why our AMAC Foundation provides this free service). SSA is now allowing in-person visits "by appointment only" and you can call the above number to schedule an in-person appointment at your local SSA office. But before you do, please consider what I've said above. And remember that your SS benefit is based on the highest earning 35 years over your entire lifetime and each year represents only 1/35th of your benefit amount. So, is it worth the trouble? That depends on whether your military earnings, including the "special extra credits for military service," are among the highest over your entire lifetime. If the answer is "yes" then it is likely worth it; if "no" then perhaps not.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance.

Los Angeles Wildfires Intensify Political Jousting Over Home Insurance Premiums



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

The timing could not have

been better — or worse. horrendously destructive and deadly Los Angeles wildfires erupted in January just as Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara's historic and very controversial overhaul of how insurers calculate premiums was taking

On one hand, the disaster drove home the insurance industry's contention that California's propensity for such catastrophes creates immense potential losses that cannot be profitably insured without changes in the rate-making system.

However as fire victims inundated insurers with claims, Lara faced pressure to crack down on companies that minimized or delayed settlement payments. Meanwhile, his critics accuse him of being too cozy with the industry he regulates, as a Los Angeles Times article detailed this It is, to put it mildly, a

yeasty situation.

Lara, a former state legislator who was elected as insurance commissioner in 2018, began drafting his new regulatory plan in response to decisions by major insurers to cut back on policies in California — or even leave the state altogether — because of seemingly endless waves of destructive wildfires.

They contended that arising from the disaster. California's long-standing system for calculating premiums, basing them on past experiences, was inadequate. They wanted to include estimates of future exposure, and the costs of obtaining reinsurance to ease their losses, in the process.

Lara incorporated those changes in his plan, but only if insurers were more willing to write policies in fire-prone regions.

'Giving people more choices to protect themselves is how we will solve California's insurance crisis," Lara said as he released details of the plan. "For the first time in history we are requiring insurance companies to expand where people need help the most. With our changing climate we can no longer look to the past. We are being innovative and forward-looking to protect Californians' access to insurance."

It drew sharp criticism from Consumer Watchdog, the Southern California organization that wrote the 1988 ballot measure making the insurance commissioner's position elective and increasing regulatory powers. The group had been sniping at Lara ever since his election, accusing him of taking campaign money from insurers and not aggressively overseeing their operations.

The group had benefited handsomely from "intervenor fees" in rate-making cases awarded by previous commissioners. Lara has been less generous, although the organization got \$643,530 in 2024,

100% of the year's awards. The Los Angeles fires have forced Lara to juggle his longterm efforts to stabilize the insurance market with imme-

diate responses to issues

Lara authorized insurers to impose assessments on their policyholders to shore up the shaky finances of California's FAIR plan, a last-ditch system that covers property owners unable to get coverage from the regular market that has seen a huge increase in applications.

However, he refused to immediately approve a request by State Farm, California's largest insurer, for a 22% emergency rate hike, saying the company had to prove a need.

If nothing else, the Los Angeles fires underscored the absolutely vital role of a healthy insurance market — not only in protecting the investments that Californians have in their homes and businesses, but as a key component in buying and selling of real estate. Lenders simply will not issue mortgages for property that is uninsured.

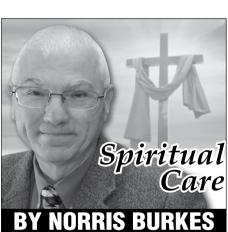
The insurance commissioner must, of course, protect the interests of consumers, but one of those interests is a healthy insurance market, and a parallel duty is making insurance profitable enough to keep insurers willing to do business in California.

Whether Lara's rate-making overhaul will fulfill both of those imperatives remains uncertain. He at least deserves credit for trying to fix a dysfunctional system after the Legislature and Gov. Gavin Newsom bowed out and gave him the task.

.Dan Walters is one of most decorated and widely syndicated columnists in California history, authoring a column four times a week that offers his view and analysis of the state's political, economic, social and

demographic trends.

What is a "Regular Church?"



Some months back, I paid a visit to a sister congregation in town and found a lively gathering, led by an energetic leadership team.

The four-year-old church seemed committed to emulate the New Testament church using a daylong format to share their resources, eat and fellowship. I came to learn how our traditional church might find regenerative energy.

Afterwards, I asked some of them what they liked about their church. I heard several good

answers, but one woman intrigued me. "The first time I walked into this church, I could tell I'd found a "wholesome place."

"Definitely a wholesome-looking bunch," I

"Yes," she added. "No one with piercings or

tattoos." "Probably there are a few tattoos somewhere," I

said, hinting at my concealed tattoo.

"Yes, just regular people," she asserted. I wondered what she meant by "regular?"

That's the word that my 16-year-old grandson uses when requesting a pizza.

That's because his "regular" is cheese and pep-

peroni only. "Wholesome and regular" isn't what this

woman might have found if she'd come with me to a Florida church where I spoke a year ago. Becky and I were greeted by a tall member

wearing a wholesome dress, with no observable She handed us a bulletin.

"Hello Norris! I'm Francis and I'm looking for-

ward to hearing you speak." Her deeper voice was clue she was a trans-

gender woman, some would say, not a "regular woman."

Immediately, I became aware of the discomfort coming over me.

My somewhat liberal/inclusive self was working overtime to assure me that my greeter was OK,

but my evangelical rearing was screaming to be I've been among Christians who say, "This is restroom does she use? Does this church allow her

I know these thoughts because they have also been mine at one time.

to work in the children's programs?"

But discomfort aside, I looked into her eyes, level with my six-foot frame, shook her hand and thanked her for the bulletin. I was collecting the determination to make this a learning opportunity.

I wish I could tell you that I invited Francis for pizza to hear her story.

But I didn't.

However, last month, I emailed her pastor, Annette Stiles Pendergrass, asking her for some background to this column. Before sharing,

Annette suggested we use the pseudonym, Francis. "The church had always known Francis as Frank. But she came to me in 2016, pretty late in life, transitioning as a man dressed in women's clothing. She asked if the congregation would welcome her back into worship. She was very kind

and respectful with her question. "I told her I had no problem with welcoming her and that while I couldn't vouch for everyone in the congregation, it was my hope folks would be open, welcoming and kind.

"It has not always been easy for her or for others. We have lost people because of our choice to not only welcome her, but to treat her as anyone else.

"Francis's presence and participation has definitely been part of our church journey to become more and more open and inclusive welcome for all.

"Is everyone comfortable with this inclusive welcome? Probably not yet."

You're right, Annette, I'm not always comfortable with fluid gender definitions. But I say "amen" to your email conclusion, "We are all on a journey of sanctification and I'm grateful for God's grace in that process."

Thank you for sharing with us, Pastor AnnettTruthfully, I'm still trying to work some things out as I consider the role of LBGTO in the Christian community. I think many pastors are. So I'm hoping that Francis's story will advanced our understanding. She reminds me that the early New Testament

church was likely very irregular. Early believers gathered in homes and sometimes underground. Their membership was filled with cussing fisherman, beggars, the widowed, the blind, prostitutes and even Roman collaborators. They were broken people who set the bar for

acceptance and became the earliest example of how to do church. Or as I committed on our church sign, "This is a safe place to explore your faith." By the way, Annette, the next time I'm in town,

let's have Francis over for pizza. Order "regular" meat lover for me and a Chicken Garlic supreme for Becky.

Oh boy. I hope my pizza preference doesn't unwholesome. It's highly irregular. Oh my, what alienate my members.



BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • ☑ amy-shane@att.net • ⓓ amy_fortheloveofbooks

Middle Grade Adventures to Enjoy









City Spies – London Calling by James Ponti; Aladdin

The City Spies adventures continues with its sixth installment, London Calling. Still trying to find his place among the City Spies, Cairo knows his skills and intellect will come into play when they get word that his sister Anne has disappeared. Now, it's time for half the team to race to Istanbul for a lead while the other half stays behind in London for protection details for a Royal Wedding. It's a race against time, a journey of discovery, and a balancing act of two main objectives, all without being discovered. Blending the high-stakes adventure of MI6 spy craft,

Everwhen- School of Time Travel (and other sciences) The Doomsday Vault by Thomas Wheeler; Simon & Schuster

and foreign countries, this story promises

to be an exciting journey of discovery, as

the kids prove they can save the world just

as well as any adult.

When Bertie Wells accidentally created a black hole in her bedroom, she didn't realize she would be opening herself to the secrets of the universe. Now, on a Time Travel scholarship to the Everwhen School, Bertie's world has been vastly opened to new tests of her skills, new adventures, and new problems. But one thing remains the same: there are still those out there that want to destroy you. Now, Bertie will have to band together with a team of outcasts to try and survive the semester, a haunted formula, and even try to win the coveted Ever-Ring competitions. One thing is for sure: this will be a semester to remember.

Time travel, famous family members, and a race against time. The Doomsday Vault is sure to be a fast-paced adventure full of misadventures and creative,

Cousins in the Time of Magic

by Emma Otheguy; Atheneum

When three cousins, Jorge, Camilla, and Siggy, stumble upon a time portal, they are instantly transported to 1862. Now, in a dash against time, the three adventurous cousins must return his aunt's mysterious diamond-encrusted sword to General Ignacio Zaragoza in time for the Battle of Puebla. As the three adventure through Civil War era United States on their way to Mexico, they must make sure time stays as it's supposed to, and not to alter the future, but also realize how much the country has been shaped over the decades.

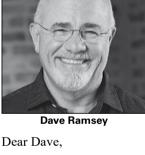
A time-traveling story that is fun, adventurous, and educational, taking travelers through actual historical events all while being taken on a magical adventure.

The Sherlock Society by James Ponti, Aladdin

Alex and Zoe Sherlock have the best idea of a summer job, embrace the family name, and open a detective agency. Now, combing forces with their two friends, Lina and Yadi, the four tenacious detectives take on Alex and Zoe's grandfather's old case files paired with his aquamarine Cadillac to try an uncrack an old conspiracy and decades of corporate corruption. Will this dynamic team be able to crack the case, or will their summer job be a bust?



It's Not the Answer



I just finished paying off my credit card bills from last Christmas, and I've made a resolution that it's the last time I'm going into debt for the holidays. With that in mind, how do you feel about using layaway programs when it comes to buying Christmas gifts, instead of putting purchases on credit cards?

- Marty

Dear Marty,

Here's a good rule of thumb for pretty much all spending, not just Christmas gifts. If you can't buy it with cash up front, you can't afford it. The only thing I generally give folks a little wiggle room on is when it comes to buying a house. Very few people have enough money set aside to write a check for a home.

Now, sometimes there might be cases when certain popular items are on sale, and you can set them

aside through layaway if you don't have cash at the moment. I don't have a huge problem with this sort of thing, as long as it's not habitual behavior. But in general, I'm not a big fan of layaway programs. I know they seem harmless to most folks, but some stores attach hidden fees and other "gotchas" to their layaway programs. On top of that, they're not the best answer to the problem of running up a mountain of debt at Christmas.

Think about it. Christmas comes at the same time every year, right? I mean, it's not like it sneaks up on you. So, wouldn't it be a better to start living on a written budget, and saving up money for Christmas ahead of time? Set aside a little bit each month leading up to December, and by the time Christmas 2025 rolls around, you'll have a big pile of cash just waiting to be turned into Christmas gifts. And the best part? No financial hangover in January and February from all the debt

you piled up. So, if you're not already doing this, Marty, I want you to start living on a budget. Give every dollar you bring in a job to do, on paper, before the upcoming month begins. Include Christmas spending in your budget, too.

And always remember, Christmas is about God's love for us. Not about impressing people by spending money you don't have!

- Dave

Dave Ramsey is a national best-selling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show, heard by more than 20 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS Mornings, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for the company, Ramsey Solutions.





Riley Reviews

SHERLOCK'S SIDEKICK TAKES TOP BILLING IN "WATSON" ON CBS

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

"WATSON" ON CBS TELEVISION

Fictional detective Sherlock Holmes and his sidekick Dr. John Watson are enduring, popular figures as the result of the prolific work of British writer and physician Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

Going back to 1922 when John Barrymore played the titular role in "Sherlock Holmes" to a more recent portrayal of the famous sleuth by Benedict Cumberbatch in "Sherlock," the character often assisting Scotland Yard has been in so many movies and TV shows that it is hard to keep track.

Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson were characters from the Victorian era, which makes sense because Arthur Conan Doyle started writing about them in the late 19th century. Recent adaptations of his works have transported them to the modern era.

Interesting enough, CBS brought the characters to contemporary times last decade with "Elementary," a popular series in which Sherlock Holmes (Jonny Lee Miller) left London for New York after being in rehab.

Holmes' father made him live with a sober companion, Dr. Joan Watson (Lucy Liu), a former surgeon who quit after losing one of her patients. Paired together, they began consulting with the NYPD to solve difficult cases.

CBS is now back with another take on the famous detective's associate in the series simply titled "Watson," where the good doctor is a contemporary figure who witnesses his friend, in a battle with archenemy Moriarty, taking a plunge into a steep waterfall as the result of the fight.

Throwing caution to the wind, Dr. John Watson (Morris Chestnut) nosedives into the fall to attempt a rescue, only to end up hospitalized for what his loyal associate Shinwell Johnson (Ritchie Coster) later tells him was a traumatic head injury.

Sherlock Holmes did not survive, leaving his estate to Watson so that he could create the Holmes Clinic Diagnostic Medicine in the city of Pittsburgh six months after recovering his memory.

With the help of his trusty aide Shinwell, Watson hires a quirky crew of medics to handle obscure cases, where each episode, at least in the beginning, focuses on the rare affliction of one patient.

The central cast members are Eve Harlow's neurologist Ingrid Derian, Inga Schlingmann's immunology specialist Sasha Lubbock, and Peter Mark Kendall pulling double-duty as twin infectious disease experts Stephens Croft and Adam Croft.

The Croft brothers are identical twins, of course, but their personalities diverge in a major way. One is very loquacious. The other seems to be emotionally stunted, which fits for Stephens since he doesn't even like the way some pronounce his given name.

Serving in the role of the clinic's med-

ical director is Watson's ex-wife Mary Morstan (Rochelle Aytes), who doesn't let divorce get in the way of providing some balance to the operation by tempering Watson's more unorthodox methods. Not to be left out is Randall Park's Moriarty, who appears at the beginning in the tussle with Sherlock at the Swiss

waterfall. Will this criminal mastermind and Sherlock's archrival suddenly reemerge from the dead, like Patrick Duffy's Bobby Ewing in the "Dallas" series? In the first episode, a pregnant woman unable to sleep and fearing for her life is diagnosed with Fatal Familial Insomnia, a rare genetic condition that causes

sleeping difficulties, memory loss, and involuntary muscle twitching. The condition worsens over time, and it's life threatening. In another episode, we learn that Foreign Accent Syndrome, a brain-related condition that affects your ability to make

sounds correctly, is a legitimate medical

condition that might be treatable. During a virtual CBS press tour, Morris Chestnut wanted everyone to know that "all the medicine on this show is real" and it "has been vetted by numerous medical professionals." Who's going to challenge an episode delving into a diagnosis so rare that maybe your family physician doesn't even know it?

Show creator and writer Craig Sweeny made it known that in writing a medical procedural he was writing "about cases at the very edge of human knowledge," while also observing that the show was designed to allow you to "learn a little bit more about yourself and your genes."

What the series has going for it is the charisma of Morris Chestnut, which is evident not just in the show but when he explained his previous roles always played it straight as a doctor, but here he's a "doctor and detective in addition to being in the whole Sherlock mythology."

As a medical show, "Watson" leans into its investigative streak, because this modern version of one of history's greatest fictional detectives turns his attention from solving crimes to solving medical mysteries.

The show's conceit of unwinding mysteries rather than crimefighting is not entirely satisfactory as mixing Sherlock mythology with complex medical obscurities does not seem like it will prove to be a winning formula over the long haul.

On the plus side for all it's worth. viewers will learn a few things about incomprehensible medical conditions that may well elude even some practitioners. However, would this knowledge even be useful for a trivia contest?



Podcast Discusses Building Relationships with New Lawmakers

On the Voice of California Agriculture podcast, California Farm Bureau Director of Policy Advocacy Matthew Viohl spoke with host Gary Sack about developing relationships with new federal lawmakers. For example, Viohl said, Sen. Adam Schiff, D-CA, shares an interest in immigration and insurance issues with California farmers. "Those are good areas to open a conversation, sharing that these are important issues to us as well," Viohl said. The podcast episode also discusses new Workplace Violence Prevention standards on California farms and the inspiring work of state FFA leaders.

Broadcast Journalist Talks About Covering Central Valley Agriculture

Revered TV reporter Dale Yurong has worked for ABC30 in Fresno, where he is now an anchor, since his college graduation in 1983. Yurong covers Central Valley agriculture in regular segments called "Ag Watch." He also hosts "Valley Grown," a 30-minute agriculture-focused special that runs quarterly, and a weekly "Dine and Dish" segment about local restaurants. Yurong spoke with California Bountiful Magazine, which is published by California Farm Bureau, about covering food and farming in the Central Valley.

California Bountiful TV Explores the Flavors of the State's Agriculture

In its latest episode, California Bountiful TV explores agricultural and culinary landmarks across the state. Host Aubrey Aquino visits a mandarin farm in Placer County, a citrus fruit upcycling facility in Tulare County and the Mezzetta food processing company's headquarters in Napa County. Aquino also enjoys tuna pizza and salmon from Morimoto restaurant in Napa. The show is produced by California Farm Bureau.

ICYMI: State to Revisit Ban on Driverless Tractors

During the past half-century, the emergence of new agricultural technology such as aerial drones, autonomous tractors and other equipment has changed the way crops around the world are planted, cared for and harvested. But in California, a regulation from the state's Division of Occupational Safety and Health, or Cal/ OSHA, dating to 1977, has prohibited the use of autonomous agricultural equipment without a driver at the helm. After years of advocacy from farm groups, the agency's standards board has empaneled an advisory committee to examine the regulation, signaling it may consider revising it.



Announcing the Premiere of 'Alice's Wonderland'

Dixon Community Theater NewsRelease

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Musical theater is returning to the Dixon community stage in June with the premiere of "Alice's Wonderland," written by Kelly Pidgeon James and Cheryl Sommers.

This original production is not merely another adaptation of Lewis Carroll's timeless classical story, 'Alice in Wonderland' but an entirely new chapter with the story's protagonist being the granddaughter of the original Alice.

"The magic of 'Alice in Wonderland' has captivated generations and this production is essentially a continuation of that original story," explained James when asked what the audience should expect. "Cheryl and I were determined to retain what made the story so unforgettable while adding new and exciting characters and plot twists."

Sommers, the co-writer and producer of "Alice's Wonderland," agreed.

"We are raising the bar with this production and really stretching our wings,"

Sommers said.

To keep to this standard and ensure a truly unforgettable experience, theysaid, Dixon Community Theater has assembled "an amazing team of seasoned professionals" who are contributing their expertise to this production.

The professionals include Kyle Jackson, who is arranging the

music for the original songs;
Brett Hendrickson, who
has signed up as

musical director; and Jean Henderson who will work on costume designs.

"For me, one of the most exciting features of this production is the use of innovative and mechanical set pieces that will aid in creating the illusion of Alice's various transforma-

tions," Sommers added.

Tony James is constructing these custom pieces, which will

offer a level of professional design new to Dixon Community Theater sets.

"We are very proud of this endeavor," James said. "We feel we have created something truly special for Dixon."

Dixon Community Theater will hold auditions for singing roles at 6:30 p.m. March 12 at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St. Auditions for non-singing, adult roles and children's roles will be at 6:30 p.m. March 13 at Veterans Memorial Hall in Dixon.

For anyone unable to make those audition dates, another audition will be from 6:30 to 8 p.m. March 17 at Dixon High School, 555 College Way, room 304.

"Alice's Wonderland" performances at the Dixon Performing Arts Center will run from June 13 to June 22.

For more information about "Alice's Wonderland" or the nonprofit Dixon Community Center, visit online at dixoncommunitytheater.com. Dixon Community Theater is also on Facebook and Instagram. ★

Community Calendar

Ongoing Activities:

Alcoholics Anonymous – If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop drinking, we can help. Call Alcoholics Anonymous at 800-970-9040 for either local meeting information or to speak to someone.

American Legion Dinners – Every Friday night at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St. Prices range from \$12 to \$17 depending on menu. Live music every Friday. Live band first and third Fridays.

Bingo – Is played every Monday and Wednesday at the Senior/Multi-Use Center, 201 S. 5th St., beginning at 12 p.m. Call 707-678-7022 for more information.

Friendship Services of Solano County – Do you spend a lot of time alone? Would you like a telephone companion? Call Friendship Service at 707-644-9062 x242 or 707-644-8909 and ask Cyndi about becoming a client. It's free. A program of Catholic Social Services. A provider of the Napa-Solano Area Agency on Aging. Email: friendship@csssolano.org.

Meals on Wheels – Homebound seniors can receive meals delivered to their homes by calling 707-425-0638. Lunch also served at the Dixon Senior Center, 201 South 5th St. at 11:30 a.m. M-F. Reservations required – call 707-425-0638 one day in advance.

Regular Meetings:

Al-Anon – Family and friends of alcoholics can get support through Al-Anon, which meets Mondays, 7 to 8 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 209 N. Jefferson St.

American Legion – Dixon Post 208 meets at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St.. For information, call 707-678-6308. Also visit us online at www.dixonveterans. org/Legion.

American Legion Auxiliary – Dixon Post 208 meets at 6 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 1305 N. First St.. For information, contact Pat Holland (President) at 707-678-3685 or Leah Marlin (Vice President) at 530-304-5385. Visit us online at www.dixonveterans.org/Legion.

Anderson PTO – Meets monthly at 7 p.m. at Anderson Elementary School, 415 East C St. Email andersonroad-runnerspto@gmail.com for dates.

Bids For Kids – Is a volunteer organization created to promote and foster youth participation in agriculture. Anyone interested in this endeavor is welcome and encouraged to attend our monthly meeting. Meetings are held every third Thursday of the month. For more information, please contact secretary, Lisa Dage at 707-246-5623, fivedages@sbcglobal.net or president, James Fuller at 916-952-0167, jameskfuller@yahoo.com.

Boy Scout Troop 152 – Meets Tuesdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m., in the Social Hall at United Methodist Church, 209 North Jefferson. Scouts is for boys 11 to 18 years old. Contact John at 707-678-9693 or email Scoutmaster152@gmail.com for more information. Check us out on the web: http://www.troop152dixon.com.

Chief Solano Kennel Club, Inc. meetings – at 7:30 p.m. on the first Thursday at the Elmira Fire Station. Call Linda at phone below to RSVP. Open to everyone. No July meeting. For info call 446-7492 or visit www. chiefsolanokennelclub.org.

Chief Solano Kennel Club, Inc. classes – Puppy Socialization 6:20 to 6:50 p.m. (4 to 12 mos), Beginning Obedience 7 to 7:40 p.m. (4 mos & older) indoor training classes on Wednesdays at the Elmira Fire Station, as well as Conformation classes at 7:50 to 8:30 p.m. for those who show dogs or are interested in showing their dogs. Classes are open to everyone and their canine companions. Classes are not appropriate for aggression issues. Discounts for Seniors 55 and over, Juniors under 16, and those who have adopted a dog from the Humane Society, a breed rescue group, or your local shelter. Bring adoption certificate when you register. Visit www.chiefsolanokennelclub.org.

a breed rescue group, or your local shelter. Bring adoption certificate when you register. Visit www.chiefsolanokennelclub.org.

CITY OF DIXON: The following meetings are held in the Council Chamber at 600 East A St. The agendas are available before meetings at www.ci.dixon.ca.us. For further information, call 707-678-7000 and ask for the City

Clerk's office, Planning Dept., Parks & Recreation Dept., or Transportation Dept.

City Council – Meets on the first and third Tuesdays of

every month at 7 p.m.

Planning Commission – Meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m.

Parks & Recreation Commission – Meets the fourth

Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m.

Transportation Advisory Commission – Meets the third Wednesday of every EVEN month at 7 p.m.

Dixon Adult Literacy Program – Solano County

Library Adult Literacy Services is seeking volunteers to help an adult with their reading, writing, or English-speaking skills at the Dixon Public Library. No experience necessary, flexible hours. All training and materials are provided. Contact: Literacy@solanocounty. com or 707-784-1526.

Dixon Boat Club – Meets first Thursday of the month. For more information, call Butch at 707-678-3622.

Dixon Downtown Business Association – Dedicated to enhancing the business environment and promoting the revitalization of downtown Dixon as the cultural center of the community. Merchant meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at various locations. Log onto www.downtowndixonca.com, email DDROAC@yahoo.com, or call 707-678-8400 for more information.

Dixon Game & Conservation Club – Meetings on second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Game Club Building on East Mayes. For more information, contact John Kett at 916-284-4683.

Dixon Historical Society – Meets quarterly on the third Sunday of Feb., Apr., Aug., and Oct. from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Dixon United Methodist Church Social Hall located at 209 N. Jefferson St. in Dixon. Meetings include a historical representation and announcements of upcoming events. Anyone interested in the history of Dixon, and its surrounding areas, is welcome! You do not need to be a member to attend, and all presentations are free to the community. The Dixon History Museum is open for visits, Thursdays 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fridays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturdays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For further information, please contact us at www.dixonhistoricalsociety. org. Email dhs.dixonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com, or call 707-693-3044.

Dixon Kiwanis Club – an International civic organization serving the community through enhancing children's lives meets on the fourth Monday of each month at the Dixon Chamber of Commerce Conference Room. Call Kristin Janisch at 918-840-0785 for more information.

Dixon Lions Club – Since 1954, the Dixon Lions Club is a group of local people who identify needs within our Dixon community and work together to fulfill those needs. Internationally our 45,867 clubs & more than 1,347,322 members make us the world's largest service club organization. We meet first/third Wednesdays at Bud's Pub & Grill from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Website: http://e-clubhouse.org/sites/dixonca. Facebook page: Dixon Lions Club.

Dixon Rotary Club – Meets on most Wednesdays at noon at The Creative Space, 160 West A. St., Dixon. Rotary is the world's first and oldest service club organization with over 1.4 million members working locally and internationally to improve health and sanitation, combat hunger, provide education, and promote peace. For more information and meeting confirmation, contact Rotary President Marlene Vega at 707-678-9368.

Dixon Scottish Cultural Association – Open to anyone who is interested in celebrating Scottish culture. Meetings are on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, 1305 N. First St. For details, visit https://scotsindixon.us/. **Dixon Senior Club** – Meets the second Tuesday of

each month from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Dixon Senior Multi-Use Center, 201 S. Fifth St. For more info, call 678-7022.

Dixon Toastmasters/Public Speaking Club – Need to

speak in front of people? Want to improve your communication skills? Want to have fun learning? Check us out! We meet Mondays at 7 p.m. at the Living Hope Church. For more info, call or text Lynda Mendez at 530-665-0948 or Rose Cooke at 707-297-0918.

Dixon Women's Improvement Club – From

O948 or Rose Cooke at 707-297-0918.

Dixon Women's Improvement Club – From September through May of each year, the Dixon Women's Improvement Club dedicated to the betterment of Dixon, meets on the third Wednesday of the month for stimulating presentations, activities, and friendships. Meetings are

meets on the third Wednesday of the month for stimulating presentations, activities, and friendships. Meetings are held at the Dixon United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

Dixon Youth Soccer Board Meetings – The board will meet the third Tuesday of each month, except for

December, at the Sutter West Medical Center Conference

Room, at 7 p.m.

Domestic Violence Support Group – Thursdays from 10 to 11 a.m. at SafeQuest Solano, 1234 Empire St., Fairfield. Info 707-422-7345. **Dry Dock** – This Alcoholics Anonymous group meets

Mondays, 7 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 to 11 a.m. at Dixon United Methodist Church, corner of B and N. Jefferson St.

Fairfield/Suisun Bass Reapers – Meets first Tuesday

of each month at RoundTable Pizza, 5085 Fairfield Business Center Drive. For more info, call 707-429-3239.

Friends of the Dixon Public Library – Meets at the library on the second Tuesday of the month at 5 p.m. For more information, call 707-678-5447.

Gretchen Higgins Parent Teacher Organization –

We meet the second Monday of each month in the library at our school. Email ohpto1525@gmail.com for more information.

Independent Order of Oddfellows Montezuma

Lodge #172 – Meets at 6 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 111 West A. St., Dixon above Bud's. For more info, call Jason 530-400-0281 or Ed 916-837-6865.

Lambtown Committee – Meets third Monday each

month at 6 p.m. at Veteran's Hall. Email John Knight at johnknightpto@gmail.com

Living With Cancer – Support Group for people who

have or have had cancer meets the first, third, and fifth Tuesday of every month, 7 to 8:30 p.m., in the Dining conference room at Woodland Memorial Hospital, 1325 Cottonwood St., Woodland. Free.

Narcotics Anonymous – Open meetings are held every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Dixon United Methodist, 209 N. Jefferson St. (Corner of West B and N. Jefferson). For helpline information and other meetings, go to www.napasolanona.org.

Northern Solano Democratic Club (NSDC) – Meets on the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at IBEW, 30 Orange Tree Circle, Vacaville (behind Home Depot). For more information, contact Jeanie White 615-260-7896 or email pres.nsdc@gmail.com. Visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/northernsolanodems/.

NSDC Democrats in Action – Monthly lunch meeting is every fourth Thursday at noon at Fuso Italian Restaurant at 535 Main St., Vacaville. Meet to discuss actions that can be taken towards local, state, and national political issues. See above for contacts.

Promises AA Group – Meets Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 209 N. Jefferson St.

Sexual Assault Support Group – Tuesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. at SafeQuest Solano, 1234 Empire St., Fairfield. Info 707-422-7345.

Solano County Mental Health Education – Monthly presentations on various topics will be held on the fourth Thursday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at 2101 Courage Dr., Fairfield. Call Rachel Ford at 707-784-8362 for more information and monthly topic.

Sons of the American Legion – Meet every second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Dixon American Legion Post 208 Hall. For information, call Wayne Holland at 707-301-0941.

Soroptimist International of Dixon – Meets Thursdays at noon at the Dixon United Methodist Church (20 N. Jefferson). Call President Barbara Rigdon at 408-306-7390. Mail: P.O. Box 472, Dixon, CA 95620.

36th District Agricultural Assn. – Board of Directors meet the second Wednesday of each month, 6 p.m. in the board room located at 655 S. First St. (Dixon May Fair)

Tremont Teachers and Parents Association – Meets the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Tremont School. For more information contact 678-9533.

Toastmasters – Meets every other Monday from 7 to 8 p.m. Contact Lynda Mendez at 530-665-0948 or email her at mendezlynda55@yahoo.com

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) – Dixon Post 8151 meets at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the Olde Vets Hall, 231 N. First St. For information, contact Cecil Dennings (Commander) at 209-395-8019. Also visit us online at m.facebook.

Young Ladies Institute of Dixon – Meets the third Thursday of the month at St. Peter's Parish Hall, 105 S. 2nd St. All Catholic women are invited to attend. For more information, call Virginia Fletcher at 678-5145. ★

com/DixonVFW.

*

Local Classifieds Advertise in your local community newspaper Call 916-773-1111

Announcement

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase, 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-424-7581

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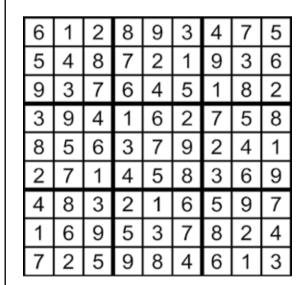


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ACROSS 1. Mrs. in Germany

12. Deadly sin 13. Hindu serpent deity

15. State location of

17. Best friend quality 18. *Sideways dance

21. "That is" in Latin

23. Omicron or Delta,

34. Kings of $_$ band 35. Act against

38. Southern cuisine

40. Transmitted radio

signal 42. French vinevard

45 Overnight flight

47. Like a dancer in The Royal Ballet company

Michelle Phillips

58. Reminiscent of

60. Flower holder

61. Cartoon lightbulb

63. Before, poetically 64. Koppel and Turner,

e.g.

1. Use cat o'nine tails 2 German industrial valley

3. "Heat of the Moment"

famous hook

5. Actress Viola

8. *Michael Jackson's backward move

9. Maisie Williams on "Game of Thrones"

11. Salt, in Mexico

13. Nine-day Christian devotion

19. Authoritative procla-

24. Not those

humiliation 26. *a.k.a. caterpillar, with

28. Ancient

The 27. 9 a.m. prayer

29. Follow as a conse-

32. Sturgeon output, pl.

CROSSWORD

5. *Nae Nae's partner 8. m in F = ma

14. Blood line

Miami University 16. Last word on radio

step 20. Buzzing pest

22. Corvine bird's sound

e.g. 26. Verb derived from

30. Although, for short 31. Demijohn

37. Bruin legend Bobby

39. Cold war initials

43. Strong suits

48. Polynesian island

country 50. Dracula's bane 52. *Dancer's gardening

tool simulation 56. Cass Elliot and

57. Eon. alt. sp.

certain hardwood, to

sommelier 59. In a tilted position

62. Police informer

DOWN

band

4. Sir Thomas More's

6. ____ provocateur
7. Like some necessities

10. Immediately, to a doctor

14. Aquatic scum

mation 22 Me a River' 23. Pull strings

25. Comedy Central's public

C StatePoint Media

33. Lingerie staple 36. *Serena Williams' Super Bowl LIX move (2) words)

38. Theater, to Socrates 40. Sis' sibling

41. King's mantle fur 44. Painter Max or Director

Lubitsch

48. Asparagus unit 49. What phoenix did

50. Numbers 51. Gulf V.I.P.

52. "Keep this information" button

53. Place a load on 54. Augmented 55. Swedish shag rugs

56. *Running

46. Armed gang member 5 3 4 Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every

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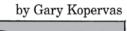






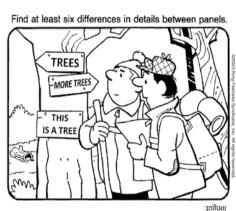












Differences: 1. Sign is lower. 2. Log is moved. 3. Elbow patch is different. 4. Cap is different. 5. Thumb is moved. 6. Jacket is

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Carmichael, CA 95608. Call 916-773-1111 for more information. The Dixon Independent Voice is published weekly on Friday. We are proud members of these newspaper associations.





NorthBay Increases Access to Healthcare

Continued from page 1

"The Dixon location was identified as a significant community in need based on it being a rural community center in Solano County where we had no presence," said Cleveland. "As we discovered we would be increasing the ambulatory network of NorthBay, we knew having a location in Dixon is extremely important to managing care in Solano County."

Because of the minimal primary and urgent care locations

in the area, those who require medical assistance often drove to Vacaville or Fairfield to receive help. NothBay's mission is to increase access for those within the county and Dixon is only the first step, according to Cleveland.

Cleveland, who has a background in emergency medicine and urgent care, is NorthBay's medical director of the Urgent Care service line, Current Credential Chairman and has been in the medical field for 11 years. His focus is increasing access for Solano County residents, and the Urgent Care Center has gone from seeing 25 to 30 patients daily to around

"We have plans to open another urgent care in Winters (summer) and Benicia (end of 2025). Rio Vista, we are looking at the first quarter of 2026," said Cleveland. "The Winters and Rio Vista sites will be hybrid sites like Dixon, having Primary and Urgent Care. Benicia will be Urgent Care only. By the end of our growth, we expect to have 10 Urgent Care facilities

Through implementing its ambulatory network strategy, NorthBay Health plans to provide shorter wait times, more locations and virtual visits. The goal is also to support patients in transitioning to a primary care provider. To be as flexible as possible with the community's needs, expanded care is also practiced for patients with

primary care needs without primary care access.

At the Dixon location, personnel on staff includes two primary care providers, Primary Care Medical Director Shanaz Khambatta, D.O. and Kulbir Bajwa, M.D. There are also two medical assistants and, on the Urgent Care side, a doctor on staff from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day of the year.

"Dixon needed NorthBay and NorthBay needed Dixon," said Cleveland.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000209 The following persons are doing business as: Solano Integrated Wellness Center, 933 Fruit Stand Circle, Vacaville, CA 95688. Sandler Psychological Services PC, 933 Fruit Stand Circle,

Vacaville, CA 95688. Date filed in Solano County:

February 5, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 4, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal. state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code

Publish: Feb 14, 21, 28, March 7, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000183 The following persons are dobusiness as: Accurate Transportation, 1112 Pintail Drive, Suisun, CA 94585.

Dashjay Carlton, 1112 Pintail Drive, Suisun, CA 94585. Date filed in Solano County: January 31, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 1, 2025

This Business is by: an Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 4, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: Feb 14, 21, 28, March 7, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000219 The following persons are doing business as: Mike's Marine, 1000 Business Park Drive, Suite E Dixon, CA 95620.

Bryan Gilday, 1000 Business

Park Drive, Suite E, Dixon, CA 95620.

Date filed in Solano County: February 6, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: February 5, 2025

This Business is by: an Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 5, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal. state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)

Publish: Feb 21, 28, March 7, 14, 2025 3-14-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000060 The following persons are doing business as: Calipix Media, 1545 McCarthy Court, Dixon, CA

David Espinoza, 1545 McCarthy Court, Dixon, CA 95620.

Date filed in Solano County: January 13, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name

This Business is conducted by: an Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration January 12, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)

Publish: Feb 21, 28, March 7, 14, 2025 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000203 The following persons are doing business as: Club Pilates, Suisun Valley, 5081 Business Center Drive, Suite 102, Fairfield, CA 94534

Pocket Pilates, LLC, PO Box 331, Loomis, CA 95650.

Date filed in Solano County: February 4, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 3, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 FT SEQ. business, and professions code.) Publish: Feb 21, 28, March 7, 14, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000255 The following persons are doing business as: Pacific Shores Creative Works, 1735 West H Street, Dixon, CA 95620. Tara Weiand, 1735 West H Street, Dixon, CA 95620.

Date filed in Solano County: February 11, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: December 31, 2024

This Business is conducted by: an Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 10, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: Feb 21, 28, March 7, 14, 2025 **PACIFIC** 3-14-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000226 The following persons are doing business as: L.T Wood Creations, 550 Amesbury Drive, Dixon, CA

Luis B Trejo Jr, 550 Amesbury Drive, Dixon, CA 95620. Date filed in Solano County: February 7, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name This Business is conducted

by: an Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 6, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)

. Publish: Feb 21, 28, March 7, 14, 2025 WOOD

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000073 The following persons are doing business as: Grace Laced Birth 3532 Standish Court, Fairfield, CA 94534. Karilynn, Beddow, 3532 Standish

Court, Fairfield, CA 94534. Date filed in Solano County:

January 14, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration January 13, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.)

. Publish: Feb 28, March 7, 14, 21, 2025

NAME C FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000259

The following persons are doing business as: Volare Apartment Homes, 2750 N Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533.

Sunrise Investors, LLC, 2750 N Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533. Date filed in Solano County: February 13, 2025. Registrant commenced to transact business under the above

business name on: N/A This Business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 12, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: Feb 28, March 7, 14, 21, 2025 **VOLARE**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000089 The following persons are doing business as: Jessicas Boutique. 57 Sierra Drive, Dixon, CA 95620. Jessica Ortiz, 57 Sierra Drive, Dixon CA 95620.

Date filed in Solano County: January 16, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: November 25, 2024

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration January 15, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: Feb 28, March 7, 14, 21, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-000299 The following persons are doing business as: Soul Glitch Studios 264 Bermuda Lane, Vallejo, CA 94591.

Nicholas Hasty, 290 East L Street, PO Box 937, Benicia, CA 94510. Date filed in Solano County February 20, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted

by: An Individual. NOTICE: In Accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920 A Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of registered owner. A new fictitious Business name statement must be filed before the expiration February 19, 2030. The filing of this statement does not itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business, and professions code.) Publish: Feb 28, March 7, 14, 21, 2025

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #CU24-10195

Charles Sanders filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Charles Sanders to Charles James Edward Patterson. THE COURT ORDERS that all

persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. March 19, 2025, 8:30 a.m. Department 12, Room 1, Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Old Solano Court House, 580 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533 Judge of the Superior Court: Christine A. Carringer Dated: January 15, 2025 Publish: February 7, 14, 21, 28, 2025 CHARLES



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE DIXON PLANNING COMMISSION

The Dixon Planning Commission will hold a hybrid PUBLIC HEARING to consider the following project:

PROJECT:

Northeast corner of Homestead Way and Evans Road (Village 13 at Homestead) Request for an amendment to Tentative Map TM21-01 and Planned Development Plan PD21-01. The Tentative Map and Planned Development Plan was approved as part of City Council Resolution 22-019, which is part of the Weyand Ranch subdivision that was approved in 2008 with City Council Resolution 08-145. The proposed Tentative Map Amendment is intended to change Village 13 from 58 alley loaded single family lots to 58, conventional, front loaded, single family residential lots. The proposed Tentative Map Amendment would eliminate the proposed alleys and increase the proposed lots from a smallest lot of 4,320 sq. ft. to 5,165 sq. ft. and the largest lot would increase from 7,839 sq. ft. to 11,210 sq. ft. There would be a small decrease in common open space, with what is presently approved of 0.93 acres (~40,511 sq. ft.) to 0.89 acres (~38,768 sq. ft.), which represents a total reduction of 0.04 acres (~1,743 sq. ft.). The proposed amendment to the Planned Development Plan would modify the PD to reflect the new tentative map with increases in lot sizes, changes to setbacks to better reflect those found in other surrounding villages of Homestead, and reductions to the maximum allowed lot coverage. APN: 0114-012-120; Zoning District: Multi-family Residential - Southwest Dixon Specific Plan (RM-SWSP); Anton Garcia, applicant and Clifton Taylor, owner; File No: PA25-04, TMA25-01/PDA25-01.

The California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") requires that this project be reviewed to determine if a study of potential environmental effects is required. The City Council adopted an addendum to the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Southwest Dixon Specific Plan (SCH # 200204237), which was filed with the Solano County Recorder on May 16, 2019. The project has been found in conformance with the addendum.

HEARING Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 7:00 pm. This meeting will be physically open to the public DATE & All members of the public may participate in the meeting by attending the meeting or LOCATION:

remotely participating via video conferencing at http://www.zoom.us or via teleconference by calling (669) 900-9128 (Entering Meeting ID: 988 621 1137 and Passcode: 604754) and will be given the opportunity to provide public comment. Contact Scott Greeley, Associate Planner at (707) 678-7000 ext. 1115 or INFORMATION: sgreeley@cityofdixonca.gov. You can also come to City Hall, 600 East A St, Dixon,

WHAT WILL

HAPPEN:

MORE

https://www.cityofdixon.us/MeetingAgendasMinutesVideos. All interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing to express opinions or submit evidence for or against the proposed application. Testimony from interested persons will be heard and considered by the Planning Commission prior to making any decision on the application. The meeting will be physically open to the public and all persons attending the meeting must abide by all State rules and public health guidelines, regarding masking and social distancing in City Council chambers.

CA 95620 to look at the file for the proposed project. The office is open weekdays from

9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You can also view the staff report 72 hours before the meeting a

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Prior to 4:30pm on the day of the meeting, written comments can be: 1) emailed to PlanningCommission@cityofdixon.us or 2) mailed/dropped off to: City of Dixon, Planning Commission, 600 East A St, Dixon, CA 95620 and must be received by 4:30pm on the day of the hearing. Copies of written comments received will be provided to the Planning Commission and will become part of the official record, but will not be read aloud

You may also attend the public hearing at the time and location listed above or participate remotely, to provide comments during the meeting. To speak or provide comments remotely during public comment period, you may: 1) via video conferencing click on "raise hand," or 2) via teleconference press *9.

At the above time and place, all letters received will be noted and all interested parties will be heard. If you challenge in court the matter described above, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered at, or prior to, the above referenced public hearing (Government Code Section 65009 (b)(2)).

Appeals of decisions by the Planning Commission to the City Council shall be made in person at Dixon City Hall by completing the appeal application and submitting the required fee, within 10 calendar days of a decision (Dixon Municipal Code Sections 17.01.050 or 18.40).

Upon request, the agenda and the documents in the meeting agenda packet can be made available to persons with a disability. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the public meeting process. Any person requiring special assistance to participate in the meeting should call (707) 678-7000 (voice) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Dixon Independent Voice 2-28-2025

IndependentVoice.com

95620.

Council Considers Changes to Utility Bill Format

By Shaunna Boyd

DIXON, CA (MPG) - At the Feb. 18 meeting of the Dixon City Council, Councilmember Jim Ernest asked the city manager to look into the audio quality of the council meeting recordings.

Ernest said that he has received complaints from constituents that even with their computer speakers turned up as high as possible, it is very difficult to hear the meetings.

Vice-Mayor Thom Bogue agreed that the audio quality has been an ongoing problem.

City Council then reviewed the existing utility bills issued by the city, which are a combined bill that includes both water and sewer charges. The current format has a water section that outlines meter charges and usage charges, a sewer section charge, and then a total amount due. Councilmember Kevin Johnson requested a discussion about whether changes should be made to the existing format.

Finance Director Kate Zawadzki explained that the city currently has a total of 6,978 utility accounts, with 4,040 receiving both water and sewer services. (The other 2,938 only receive sewer services from the city because those customers get their water through California Water.)

Councilmember Johnson brought up the potential of separating the water and sewer into two bills to ensure there is no confusion about the charges for each service.

Zawadzki explained that if the Council decides to separate the bills, staff will have to create a second account for each customer. a task that is estimated to take 9 to 12 months with the current staffing levels.

The city uses a mailing service to print and mail the utility bills. If they switch to two invoices, Zawadzki said the printing cost will increase by approximately \$18,000 per year. But postage costs would remain the same because they could put both bills into the same envelope.

Mayor Steven Bird said, "I'm confused as how that's economical or feasible, cost-wise. It looks like it's pretty clear on this bill, as the water and sewer are divided. Who's having trouble separating what the costs are? It's right there."

Councilmember Johnson said that many of his constituents are confused by the bill and say that their water bill is the entire charge on the invoice. But he said he also got feedback from other residents who don't want to receive two bills. So, Johnson suggested the possibility of changing the bill format to clarify the separate

Councilmember Ernest said there might be confusion among some residents, but doubling the number of accounts would create twice the amount of work for staff and "I can't support that at all." However, he said he would support spending some money for a redesign on the format.

The city uses a standard form for the utilities invoice. The company that issues that standard form charges \$250 per hour for any customizations, and then there is an annual fee of \$2,500 to maintain that customized form.

Councilmember Johnson said he didn't anticipate such high costs for simple changes to the form. Johnson was "just looking to improve communications with the public."

Zawadzki said they could potentially include some notes elsewhere on the form, and she will ask if they could add colors to differentiate the charges without incurring the customization fee.

Mayor Bird said, "I'm not in favor of changes that are going to come with a cost, even if it's minimal." The Council voted unanimously to consider changes to the form if they can be made without any

extra costs to the city. City Council then considered the approval of three annual events.

First was a request from Dixon Action Team to host their annual

Grillin-n-Chillin event on June 28 in downtown Dixon. The event will feature chili and rib cookoffs, live music, vendors, a car show, and sale of food and alcohol.

The request asks the city to apply for a Caltrans permit to close Highway 113 for the event, as well as to approve additional street closures and use of city parking lots and facilities. The cost to the city (already included in the current budget) is approximately \$23,150, and covers police officers, staff for traffic control, fire and emergency response staff, equipment rental, barricades, and sign boards.

Vice-Mayor Bogue noted that the organizers of the event were not at the meeting, which made it difficult for the Council to have their questions answered.

If the event is asking for taxpayer money, Bird said, he would like to see how much the organizers are actually putting into the event, with specific details about how the costs are shared.

"It seems like the city is carrying all the costs," said Bird. "We need to find a better balance."

Vice-Mayor Bogue asked that the item be continued until the next meeting and that the organizers be asked to attend. The motion passed 4-1, with Councilmember Johnson dissenting.

Next, the council considered a resolution to support the Concerts in the Plaza event. Since 2022, the city and the Dixon Chamber of Commerce have co-hosted the series, which will feature nine concerts at Pardi Plaza, to be held on Thursday evenings from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in June through October.

The city's cost is \$250 per concert, for a \$2,250 overall total, which is already included in the current budget. The costs to the city primarily cover the required staff overtime. The city would also donate the use of equipment and facilities.

Dixon Chamber of Commerce CEO Shauna

Manina spoke to the Council to outline the costs covered by the Chamber, including \$750 to \$1000 for each band, \$285 per event for a port-a-potty and hand wash station, and \$75 per concert for food and drinks for the bands. She said last year, the total cost to the Chamber was \$13,500. Without counting their staff time, they broke even, and Manina said, "We're happy to do it. ... What it gives to the community is priceless."

Mayor Bird was happy to see "significant cost sharing. It's a team effort and that's very apparent."

Councilmember Johnson asked about the potential for guests and bands to overheat during the event due to high summer temperatures. Manina said if temperatures are expected to be over 100 degrees, she will postpone that particular concert. And eventually she said they'd like to install some shade features, but "in the meantime, we'll do the best we can."

Council voted unanimously to approve the concert series.

Finally, City Council considered a resolution to support the Dixon May Fair Parade on May 10, which kicks off the weekend festivities of the Dixon May Fair. The parade is co-hosted each year by

the City of Dixon and the Dixon Chamber of Commerce. The city will apply for a Caltrans permit to close Highway 113, in addition to various side streets.

The cost to the city, which is already included in the current budget, is approximately \$24,050, primarily to cover fire and police services to ensure public safety.

Mayor Bird said, "148 years this has been going on in this town," and the Council voted unanimously to approve the parade.

The next meeting of the Dixon City Council is scheduled for 7 p.m. March 4. ★

Persons listed in this log from the Dixon Police Department are considered innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. Only activities deemed significant by the Police Dept. are included.

DIXON POLICE LOG

Tuesday, Feb. 18

1013 - Theft report taken in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive.

1404 - Vandalism report taken in the 600 block of Spruce St.

1459 - Found property report taken at City Hall. Public Works found a cell phone at Hall Park.

1625 - Found property report taken in the 300 block of North Almond St.

Monday, Feb. 17

1713 - Non-injury traffic accident reported in the 200 block of West A St.

Sunday, Feb. 16

1658 - Report of a found engagement ring in the 800 block of Jeffrey Lane.

1733 - Report of threats in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive resulted in the arrest of Alejandro Lopez (32) of Woodland for felony threats and resisting arrest. He was taken to jail after medical clearance.

1804 - An agency assist report was taken in the 1300 block of West H St.

Saturday, Feb. 15

2130 - Juvenile was arrested for resisting arrest in the 600 block of Martin Ct.

Friday, Feb. 14 1845 - A restraining order was served in the 900 block of North Adams St.

2220 - Miguel Hernandez Munoz (26) of Dixon was arrested in the 400 block of Ellesmere Drive for

resisting arrest.

Thursday, Feb. 13

1220 - Theft report 200 block East Dorset Drive.

1657 - Found Property report at Dixon Police Department.

2130 - Benjamin Fludd (42) of Dixon was arrested for domestic violence in the 1300 block of North Lincoln St. 2205 - Found wallet at business in the 200 block of East Dorset Drive.

0500 - Burglary to a business in the 900 block of North Adams St.

Wednesday, Feb. 12

1030 - A felony vandalism arrest report was taken at 1350 W. H St. Officers responded to a call of a suspicious circumstance, where a male subject had fallen through the victim's ceiling. Officers detained the suspect without incident and conducted their investigation. Suspect admitted to recently using narcotics and was making little sense in his statement. The Victim approximated the damage to be over five-thousand dollars and would cooperate with charges being filed. The suspect was arrested and taken to the Solano County Jail, where he was booked for the before mentioned charge.

1830 - Battery report on school grounds.

Tuesday, Feb. 11

1037 - Theft of merchandise from a container while in transit from Mexico to Dixon.

1306 - Traffic collision reported in the 1400 block of Belden Ct.

0127 - A trespass arrest report was taken in the 1400 block of Ary Lane. Officers contacted (S) Daniel Lamons (36) of Clayton. Lamons was arrested and taken to the Solano County Jail and released to their staff.

Monday, Feb. 10

0903 - School resource report taken in the 1300 block of W H St.

0930 - Information report taken in the 600 block of West D St. South.

2053 - A suspected child abuse report was taken at the Dixon Police Department.

Sunday, Feb. 9

1129 - Hit and run accident reported in the 1400 block of Market Lane.

1435 - Non-injury traffic accident reported in the 1100 block of Pitt School Road. 1704 - Non-injury traffic accident reported in the 1300 block of Stratford Ave.

Saturday, Feb. 08

2316 - A confidential report was taken in the 1600 block of Winfield St.

Friday, Feb. 7

2000 - A fraud report was taken in the 200 block of West Chestnut St.

2050 - A D.U.I arrest report was taken in the 100 block of Dorset Drive. Officers contacted (S) Jose Brian Rico (20) of Vacaville. Rico was arrested and transported to the Dixon Police Department. Rico was cited and released to a sober adult.

2155 - A disorderly conduct report was taken in the 1000 block of North First St. Officer contacted (S) Renee Turpin (45) of Vacaville. Turpin was arrested for 647(f) P.C. and transported to the Solano County Jail.





